Response to Office Action dated March 10, 2010 U.S. Appl. No. 10/580,191

Atty. Docket No.: 8688.048.US0000

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-7 and 11 as follows:

Claims I Claim

1. (Currently Amended) A joint for a between two panels, the joint comprising a first edge

and a second edge whereby the first edge comprises a groove and the second edge is provided with a

tongue wherein the second edge further comprises an upper side groove, and a joining profile, the joining

profile comprises an elastic material and is provided with [[a]] at least one tongue and an intermediate

section, the joining profile being so configured so as to allow [[it]] the joining profile to be located in

the upper portion of the joint between the two[[,]] joined, adjacent panels.

2. (Currently Amended) The joint for a panel according to claim 1, wherein the first edge

further comprises an upper side groove and the second edge comprises a second upper side groove, and

the joining profile is further provided with comprises a first, and a second, snapping tongues, the joining

profile being so configured so as to allow each of the first and second snapping tongues to be fitted into

the first and second upper side grooves of the two, joined, adjacent panels.

3. (Currently Amended) The joint according to claim 2 wherein the joint further comprises

[[the]] mating surfaces wherein the joining profile and the upper side[[s]] grooves are so

configured that a play is created in the joint between the mating surfaces.

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4. (Currently Amended) The joint according to claim 3 wherein the play is in the range of 0.05 - 1 mm.

(Currently Amended) The joint according to claim 1 wherein the tonguc and the groove

are configured to limit the movement in a vertical direction between the two adjacent panels.

6. (Currently Amended) The joint according to claim 2 wherein the joining profile and the

upper side grooves are configured to limit the movement in a horizontal direction between the two

adjacent panels.

7. (Currently Amended) The joint according to claim 2 wherein a portion of a panel

arranged between the upper side groove and [[its]] the panel's respective distal edge portion comprises a

recess.

8. (Cancelled)

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(Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The joint according to claim 2 wherein the first groove edge

surface will create a pressure on an outer edge of the joining profile when two adjacent panels are forced

together, the pressure causing the intermediate section to be urged downwards.

11. (Currently Amended)The joint according to claim 10 wherein a portion of a panel

arranged between the upper side groove and [[is]] the panel's respective distal edge portion comprises a

recess, the recess being adapted to receive the lower portion of the intermediate section when being

urged downwards.

12. (Previously Presented) The joint according to claim 2 wherein the upper side groove is

provided with a first groove edge surface and a second groove edge surface, and between the first and

second groove edge surfaces a predetermined distance is present, the distance being so configured that

the snapping tongue may be pressed in between the first and second groove edge surfaces.

13. (Previously Presented) The joint according to claim 12 wherein the first and

second groove edge surfaces are arranged so that an undercut is present, that the snapping tongue of

the joining profile is configured with respect to the undercut so that a snap action locking effect is

achieved.

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- 14. (Cancelled)
- 15. (Cancelled)
- 16. (Cancelled)